REMARKS

Claims 17 through 28 remain pending in the present application. Claims 17 and 21 have been amended. Basis for the amendments can be found throughout the specification, drawings and claims as originally filed.

The Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences indicated that above Claims 17 and 21 would be allowable over the art of record. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to pass the case to issue at his earliest possible convenience. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the present application, he should not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Bv

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 20, 2004

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